

RICHTLINIEN EINER PHILOSOPHIE DER MEDIZIN. By A. W. Kneucker, M.D., Riverside, California, Verlag Wilhelm Maudrich, Wien, 1949. \$4.50.

This book, published by Wilhelm Maudrich, Vienna, and written by Professor A. W. Kneucker, in Riverside, is mainly a philosophical dissertation on subjects related to medicine and in the field of medicine. Although interesting to the author and a certain small group in the medical profession, it probably would not be of any interest to the general practitioner both because of the content and the fact that it is written in German.

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EMERGENCIES IN MEDICAL PRACTICE. Edited by C. Allan Birch, M.D., F.R.C.P., Physician Chase Farm Hospital, Enfield. With 131 illustrations, 8 in full color. 564 pages. Second Edition. The Williams and Wilkins Company, Baltimore, 1950. \$5.50.

This is a book designed primarily for the general practitioner and includes in its scope emergencies in all branches of medicine occurring not only on land but on the sea and in the air. The appearance of a new edition of this book within less than a year bespeaks its popularity among the practitioners in Great Britain. The book represents the combined efforts of numerous collaborators who have covered their subjects well. As can be expected there is some overlapping. Beside the ordinary medical and surgical emergencies all sorts of emergencies are discussed such as how to remove a fixed wedding ring. Just why discussion of this subject should be sandwiched in between foreign bodies and acute gout is not quite clear to the reviewer. A 30-page discussion of medical proceedings of various sorts such as lumbar punctures, thoracentesis, etc., would appear useful to the beginner in practice, especially in a country where internship training is not universal. One might disagree with some things in the book such as a statement that the acute abdomen of diabetic acidosis is "probably due to distention of the liver by fat." The strong improvement in seasickness therapy effected by the induction of dramamine did not appear at all clean cut to the author who rates its effect no higher than the old-time methods of treatment. The reviewer was interested by the method of treatment of mushroom poisoning consisting of the oral consumption of uncooked rabbit's brain and rabbit's stomach over a period of days.

In England the metric system has made small inroads on the apothecary system. One is sorry again that Napoleon did not get to England to replace, as he did in the rest of Europe, the outmoded system of apothecary measurement by the metric standard.

Making allowances for differences in practice in Great Britain and the United States the book should prove to be particularly useful to the young general practitioner in the Western Hemisphere.

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NOSES. By Harold M. Holden, M.D. An exhaustive work on the Nose in Psychology, Literature, Art, Plastic Surgery, Folklore and Anthropology. Illustrated. 252 pages. The World Publishing Co., Cleveland, 1950. \$3.50.

Doctor Holden has written an interesting and entertaining book of popular appeal, comprising the folklore concerning the nose and the part this feature plays in human history and human relationships. It is apparent that Doctor Holden has been collecting choice quotations regarding noses from his reading over a period of years, and this material forms the illustrative data of his book. Fortunately he has not burdened it with the pedantry of physical anthropology; however he does give the elements of the study of physiognomy in a concise form. The book is recommended for those who wish to acquaint themselves with some of the concepts which have made plastic surgery the craft it is.

FACIAL PARALYSIS. By J. Parkes Findlay, M.B., Ch.M., Honorary Assistant Aural Surgeon, Sydney Hospital. Published by the Author and Distributed by Angus and Robertson, Ltd., 89 Castlereagh St., Sydney. 17/6. 1950.

This small book of 45 pages on facial paralysis, being a treatise on clinical classification of paralysis of facial nerve, is published by the author. There does not seem to be much new in this book, either in the differential diagnosis or treatment, except that the author advocates decompression of the nerve in facial palsy due to what he terms vascular occlusion or due to trauma, but those due to various infections such as disease of the geniculate ganglion, facial weakness and neuritic facial weakness recover without any difficulty. He feels that the symptoms of palsy due to vascular occlusion are severe pain, sharply localized behind the ear and which may be present one to three days before the development of paralysis.

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THE PATHOLOGY OF INTERNAL DISEASES. By William Boyd, M.D., Dipl. Psych., M.R.C.P. (Edin.) Professor of Pathology and Bacteriology in the University of Toronto. Fifth Edition, thoroughly revised, with 391 illustrations and 11 colored plates. Lea and Febiger, Philadelphia, 1950. \$11.00.

This new edition of Dr. Boyd's well-known book maintains the writer's readable style. A considerable effort has been made to add essential new material to bring the book up to date. Among the new presentations sections on pulmonary fibrosis, adrenal cortical relationships, arteritis and related diseases, and bone and joint pathology are worth special mention. There are three new color plates and a number of new black-and-white illustrations.

The book represents an effort to discuss disease in terms of tissue changes, and it should be an aid to practitioners seeking to explain clinical manifestations of disease.

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STEROID HORMONES AND TUMORS, Tumorigenic and Antitumorigenic Actions of Steroid Hormones and the Steroid Homeostasis, Experimental Aspects. By Alexander Lipschutz, M.D., Director of the Department of Experimental Medicine, National Health Service of Chile. Formerly Professor of Physiology; The Williams & Wilkins Company; Baltimore; 1950. \$6.00.

This book of 309 pages is a very complete presentation of the author's own work on the production of growth responses in animals by estrogenic substances. Considerably less than half of the book relates to the work of other laboratories with respect to steroid hormones and tumor growth. The book contains an exhaustive discussion of available knowledge concerning the production and inhibition of fibrous tumors in the female pelvic organs and elsewhere in the guinea pig by the use of estrogens, and based largely upon this work the author's philosophy of the nature of tumors is presented. The concept of endocrine imbalance is used freely in the discussion of pathogenesis of abnormal growth responses to steroid hormones, and considerable emphasis is placed upon the finding that tumor-like proliferations in animals occur much less prominently when estrogenic agents are administered intermittently than when there is continuous administration of these substances.

The book is adequately illustrated. It is somewhat difficult to read because of the frequent use of unusual terms such as "tumoral seed," "the mosaic of territories," "desensibilization," "conjunctive membrane," but most of these terms are clarified in the text. There are a number of minor typographical errors and ungrammatical expressions but these do not destroy the meaning of the affected passages.

The author does not intend that his book should be used to direct the use of steroid hormones in clinical medicine, but rather that it should serve as a source of information for students of cancer and the manifestations of steroid hormone administration.